Inquiry Counters in their respective High Courts under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, along with funds for use of Information Technology in the High Courts.

(iv) **Filling up of vacancies:-** Government has also been constantly reviewing the accumulation of arrears in courts. Besides reviewing and increasing judge strength of High Courts every three years, Government have set up/encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolution including conciliation, mediation and arbitration. State Governments and Union Territories have been requested to fill up vacant posts of judges/magistrates and supporting staff in District/Subordinate Courts.

Reservation for women in Parliament

98. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are bringing a legislation in the coming Parliament Session for reservation for women in the Parliament and the State Legislatures;

(b) the percentage of seats Government intent to reserve for women in the Parliament and the State Legislatures; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the partners of Government are not agreeing for the reservation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Constitution (Eighty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1999, which provides that as nearly as one-third of the seats shall be reserved for women in the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of States, has already been introduced in Lok Sabha on 23.12.1999.

(c) No, Sir.

PM within the ambit of Lokpal

†99. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring the Prime Minister

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

also in the cases of corruption, within the ambit of Lokpal, deviating from the recommendations of the constitution review commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the person to be appointed as Lokpal and the term of the office of Lokpal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Lokpal Bill, 2001 introduced in the Lok Sabha on 14.8.2001, *inter alia*, stipulated that a person who holds or has held the office of the Prime Minister will be within the purview of the Lokpal. The Bill also stipulated that the Lokpal shall consist of:-

(i) a Chairperson who is or has been a Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court; and

(ii) two Members who are or have been the Judges of the Supreme Court or the Chief Justices of the High Courts.

Further the Chairperson and every other Member shall hold office as such for a term of three years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Judges in SC and HCs

100. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges in the Supreme Court and the various High Courts in the country, court-wise;

(b) the percentage of SC/ST and women judges, Court-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the judicial system is not adequately represented by the above sections; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to rectify the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) A Statement showing the number of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts, including women Judges, is enclosed (*See* below).

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and the High